1987-1988 ANNUAL REPORT

THE SOCIAL PLANNING & RESEARCH COUNCIL of Hamilton & District

A United Way Member Agency

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The mandate of the Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton and District is to provide an independent voice in the community to improve the quality of life for all citizens by promoting:

- **improved social policies and services;**
- **maximized access for all people to the opportunities offered by our society; and**
- **effective citizen involvement in the continuing consideration of social issues.**

The freedom to come together to debate issues, propose changes and act collectively in a voluntary capacity is fundamental to our free and democratic society. With this freedom, comes the obligation to act responsibly in working towards better understanding and social change which will improve community life.

I am pleased to report that 1987/88 was a year of continuing independent and responsible activity by our Council. We have received, and we appreciate, growing community support — from our individual members as well as our major funders, the United Way and the Regional Municipality of Hamilton-Wentworth. We are especially pleased that the support of these funders extends to ongoing shared research efforts.

It was with regret that we said good-bye to three of our staff during the past year — our Executive Director, Jody Orr; our Research Director, Kim Van Louwe; and our Receptionist, Kay German.

Jody first joined the Council in 1979 as Research Associate. She became the Research Director in 1981 and Executive Director in 1984. During her eight years with the Council, Jody's contribution to the credibility and reputation of the SPRC as a first-class social planning council has been immeasurable. I know I speak on behalf of all the Board, the staff and the community when I say that we are thankful for the years she devoted to the SPRC and we wish her every success in her new position as Executive Director of the Social Planning Council of Metro Toronto.

Kim Van Louwe had worked with the SPRC for seven years before joining the Ontario Ministry of

Housing in 1987. Kim, who followed Jody as Research Director, did a superb job of maintaining the Council's reputation as an extremely effective centre of social research in Hamilton-Wentworth. We wish Kim well in his new position with the Ministry.

Kay German retired in September 1987 after nine years as our Receptionist. I am delighted that she has decided to stay involved with the SPRC as a clerical volunteer.

We were pleased to welcome back Mike Pennock as Executive Director after a four-year absence. Mike left the position of SPRC Executive Director in 1984, after spending nine years with the Council, to work with a private consulting firm. It is the Council's good fortune that he preferred working at the SPRC and I look forward to working with him during the coming year.

Kim's position was filled by Gloria DeSantis and we have all been impressed by her technical expertise as well as her "people" skills. The ongoing ability of the Council to attract superb staff like Gloria has been one of the keys to our continuing success.

The staff changes have not proved to be an impediment to the Council's continuing work as an important force for social development in our community. From both an administrative and a program perspective, the Council has continued to grow and develop as we have dealt with important issues in housing, employment, and day care, among others.

I am happy to report that not only are the Council's programs and projects in good shape, we are also in a sound financial position, having finished the past year with a modest surplus. We consider it a vote of confidence from the United Way that we have moved from an annual to a three-year funding commitment from them.

The strength and effectiveness of a community-based organization like the SPRC flows from its volunteer base. We are fortunate that the past record of accomplishment of the Council, together with our current activities, allows us to attract volunteers of the highest calibre who are prepared to give freely of their time and talent. Not only are our Board members active in the work of our committees, numerous other volunteers representing a cross-section of the community also participate.

The accomplishments of this dedicated group of individuals are described in more detail in the Executive Director's report and the composition of our committees is listed near the end of this Annual Report.

I wish to express appreciation to the members of the Board and staff for their support during my first year as President. In particular, I thank former Executive Director, Jody Orr; current Executive Director, Mike Pennock; Past President, Dick Capling; Vice President, Larry Chambers; Treasurer, Nick Mastroluisi; and the Chairpersons of the Research Advisory Committee and Community Development Advisory Committee, Grant Corbett and Sally King. Their energy, enthusiasm and knowledge have made my job a relatively easy one.

On behalf of the Board and staff, I also wish to acknowledge and thank the outgoing members of our Board of Directors: Ken O'Neal, Nick Mastroluisi, Jenny Adams, Gerry Wright and Grant Corbett. Their participation over the years has helped to make our community a better place for all of us.

I look forward to the coming year, which I know will be filled with new challenges and issues for the Council.

Urmas Soomet

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The first six months of my "return" to the SPRC have been a time of enormous pleasure to me — getting to know the new staff and volunteers, re-acquainting myself with "old" colleagues and becoming immersed, once again, in the fascinating world of the SPRC and the Hamilton-Wentworth community. In reviewing the last four years of Council activities, I have been struck by the ability of the Council to keep its internal house in order while at the same time, adjusting to the changing world within which it operates. Staff changes, office re-organizations, the separation of the Volunteer Bureau and ongoing resource constraints, have all been successfully absorbed as Council activities re-focused on shifting community priorities.

When I left the Council in 1984, its agenda was dominated by employment and income issues as the Region attempted to crawl out of one of the worst recessions since the Thirties. Now, four years later, the agenda has become dominated by one of the negative "by-products" of our economic recovery — the affordable housing crisis. Sky-rocketing housing prices and a continuing tight apartment market drove affordable units from the grasp of an increasing proportion of Regional residents.

The SPRC project and consultation agenda reflected this dramatic development. The Research Unit completed the Social Housing Impact Study for the City's Non-Profit Housing Corporation and this study demonstrated clearly that well-planned social housing developments do not have to exert a disruptive influence on their host neighbourhoods. Our own Social Housing Action Committee worked on the development of initiatives which are designed to increase the public acceptance of social housing. Their hard work culminated in the receipt of a major grant from the Secretary of State, which will be used during the coming year, to develop a public education program for use in neighbourhoods where public housing projects are planned. This work, which is done under the guidance of Don Jaffray, our Community Development Co-ordinator, is tied to our ongoing efforts to co-ordinate the efforts of social housing providers and consumers through our ongoing involvement in the Social Housing Coalition of Hamilton-Wentworth and the Golden Horseshoe Housing Committee. On a national basis, our work in sponsoring the local Homelessness Conferences as a part of a nation-wide consultation on homelessness, helped to focus attention on this particularly tragic group of citizens.

Finally, it is hoped that the leadership role we are playing in the organization of local housing services through the New Access to Permanent Housing Committee, will result in the influx of a quarter of a million "new" provincial dollars into the community for the provision of new services designed to diminish the housing problems of so many of our residents.

All of this activity, when coupled with the ongoing work of our Committee on Housing and Home Support Care for the Disabled and the assistance we are providing the Region in evaluating their own Housing Officer Program, demonstrates the SPRC's ability to respond to the changing social development priorities of the community.

While all of this activity was underway, employment and income issues did not disappear from our agenda. Community development involvement in the W!N-90 program and research involvement in the evaluation of the Industry Education Council's Operation Employability and the Region's Job Training Program ensured that employment issues remained a part of our activities.

Our ongoing consultation service to community groups, organizations and funders continued to experience a level of demand which the Council was hard pressed to meet. Consultation requests from hundreds of sources involving research, planning, organizational development and citizen participation involved all Council staff and accounted for approximately one quarter of our research time and almost half of our community development time. We are continuing our attempts to develop a system of priorizing consultation requests that assures a fair distribution of this scarce resource to priority groups and organizations.

On behalf of both myself and Jody Orr, I want to thank all of the staff, Board members and volunteers for their ongoing support and commitment to the SPRC. Exceptional staff and volunteers have been the hallmark of the SPRC during its more than two decades of existence and the coming year will be no exception.

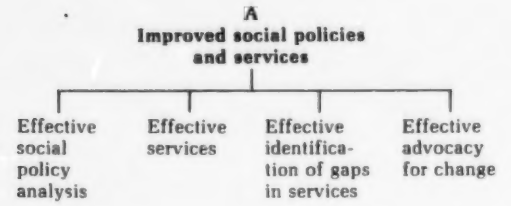
On a more personal note, I want to thank Jody for leaving the SPRC in such a healthy and vibrant condition. When I left four years ago, I never doubted that she would do a superb job as Executive Director, but I never expected to be faced with the challenging task of following in her footsteps.

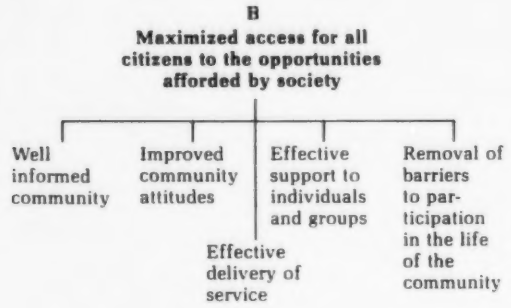
I also want to thank Urmas Soomet, Dick Capling, the other members of the Board of Directors and the members of the staff for welcoming me back to this wonderful organization.

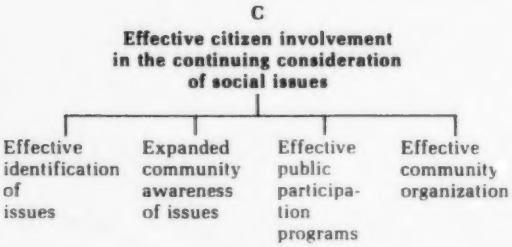
Mike Pennock

MISSION STATEMENT

As an independent voice in the community, the Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton and District will act to improve the quality of life for all citizens by engaging in activities which will result in:




B
Maximized access for all citizens to the opportunities afforded by society
Well informed community
Improved community attitudes
Effective support to individuals and groups
Effective delivery of service
Removal of barriers to participation in the life of the community


C
Effective citizen involvement in the continuing consideration of social issues
Effective identification of issues
Expanded community awareness of issues
Effective public participation programs
Effective community organization

STAFF TIME ALLOCATIONS 1987 - 1988

Staff time allocations in 1987/1988 are presented in Table 1. Almost 70% of staff time went into on-line activities (projects, consultations and program committees), with over 900 hours recorded under minor consultations covering literally hundreds of clients, ranging from information requests to involvement on outside committees. Administration, which includes staff attendance at Board and Executive Committee meetings at which projects and consultations are discussed, consumed just over 20% of staff time during this one year period.

Professional staff accumulated 464 hours of overtime which was not recovered. This represents about 8% of the total hours worked in 1987-1988.

TABLE 1

Staff Time Summary

April 1, 1987 — March 31, 1988*

	Hours	%
Administration:		
General	796.00	13.6
Committee	502.50	8.6
Program Committees	231.50	3.9
Background	429.25	7.3
Community Liaison	106.50	1.8
Consultations:		
Minor	920.75	15.7
Major	780.75	13.3
Projects	2.095.00	35.7
	5.862.25	100.0

Overtime Hours = 464

* As a result of staff turnover in two positions this past year, the above represents the Executive Director's time from April to September, 1987, and the Research Director's time from April to May, 1987, and from November, 1987 to March, 1988.

AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Directors and Members of
The Social Planning and Research
Council of Hamilton and District:

I have examined the balance sheet of The Social Planning and Research Council of Hamilton and District as at March 31, 1988 and the statement of financial activities for the year then ended. My examination was made in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, and accordingly included such tests and other procedures as I considered necessary in the circumstances.

In my opinion, these financial statements present fairly the financial position of the Council as at March 31, 1988 and the results of its operations for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting principles described in Note 1 to the financial statements applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year.

Hamilton, Ontario — William R. Pearson
June 7, 1988 — Chartered Accountant

NOTE: The information given in this Annual Report is an extract from the financial statements. The complete financial statements, including all related notes to the financial statements, are available to members on request.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Twelve Months Ended March 31 1988	Fifteen Months Ended March 31 1987 *
REVENUES:		
Support from the public	$223,905	$274,936
Support from governments	83,875	43,886
Other	6,535	6,761
TOTAL REVENUES	$314,315	$325,583
EXPENSES:		
Salaries	220,528	227,777
Replacement staff	1,693	381
Employee health and retirement benefits	22,293	26,173
Data processing and professional fees	1,981	1,329
Supplies	8,973	10,653
Telephone	5,641	3,268
Postage and shipping	4,542	4,939
Occupancy	30,195	22,524
Public relations	1,279	1,151
Local transportation	4,248	4,569
Conferences and meetings	3,584	3,016
Subscription and reference publications	333	431
Organization dues	610	948
Equipment and fixed assets	2,872	14,969
Rentals	1,954	615
Miscellaneous	2,659	1,888
TOTAL EXPENSES	313,385	324,631
Excess of revenues over expenses for the period	930	952
Surplus, beginning of period	1,410	458
Surplus, end of period	$ 2,340	$ 1,410

* Change in fiscal year-end:

As a result of the change in fiscal year-end to March 31 adopted by the United Way, the Council's Board of Directors approved a change to the same fiscal year-end commencing March 31, 1987. In order to efficiently effect this change, a statement of financial activities for the fifteen months ended March 31, 1987 was prepared. This change in fiscal year-end and the method of effecting this change have been approved by both the United Way and Revenue Canada.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1987/1988

OFFICERS

Urmas Soomet, President
Dr. Larry Chambers, Vice-President
Nicholas Mastroluisi, Treasurer
Michael W. Pennock, Secretary †
Johann E. Orr, Secretary *
Richard C. Capling, Past-President

HONORARY SOLICITOR

W. N. Callaghan, Q.C.

HONORARY DIRECTORS

J. Nelson Allan
Marjorie Baskin
Judge Thomas A Beckett
Archbishop John Bothwell
Anthony Butler
Craig Fraser
Hubert Martin, Q.C.
Charles T. McNair
David E. Seldon

DIRECTORS

Term Ending 1988	**Term Ending 1989**
Jenny Adams	Marvin Caplan
Joyce Caygill	Craig Dowhaniuk
Dr. Larry Chambers	Jack Farnworth
David Christopherson	Bill Fuller
Grant Corbett	David Godley
Patricia James	Sally King
Nicholas Mastroluisi	Anthony Perri
Kenneth O'Neal	Urmas Soomet
Geraldine Wright	Kenneth Stone

Term Ending 1990

Judith Bishop	Julio Ramirez
Dr. John A. Johnston	Chai Chu Thompson
Margaret McCarthy	Zaki Ullah
Dorothy Marchesan	

Consultant

Edgar Smee

Advisors

Bruce Mochrie (United Way)	Norma Walsh (Regional Social Services)

† Appointed January 4, 1988
* Resigned during year

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEES:

Executive: Dr. Larry Chambers, Chairperson
Dick Capling
Grant Corbett
Sally King
Nick Mastroluisi
Urmas Soomet

Finance: Nick Mastroluisi, Chairperson
Dick Capling
Dr. Larry Chambers
Urmas Soomet

Personnel: Dick Capling, Chairperson
Dr. Larry Chambers
Nick Mastroluisi
Urmas Soomet
Zaki Ullah

Nominating: Dick Capling, Chairperson
Marvin Caplan
George Czutrin
Carl DeLottinville
Pat James
Dr. Martin Johns
Dr. John A. Johnston
Joan McKee
Mike Schuster
Peter Shebib

STANDING COMMITTEES:
Community Development Advisory:

Sally King, Chairperson	Hugo Neufeld
Judith Bishop	David Godley
Susan Goodman*	Gil Simmons
Basilia Iatomasi	Sheila Barrett
Georges Lariviere	Donna Slater
Lindsey George	

Research Advisory:

Grant Corbett, Chairperson	Sharon Monte*
Mike DeVillaer	Heather Munroe Blum*
Nancy Edwards	David Oikawa
George Gliva	Peter Pettingill
Tom Langford	Marilyn Smith
Sandra Madren	Chai Chu Thompson
Don Trebilcock	

Consultants:

Dr. Larry Chambers
Dr. Roman March
Dr. John Chong
David Tucker

* Resigned during the year

AD HOC COMMITTEES:
Social Housing Action Committee:

Dr. John A. Johnston, Chairperson
Julia Atkinson
Martin Boughan
Rosemary Campbell
Winnie Capriotti
Vera Chouinard
David Christopherson
Dee Elliott
Maggie Fischbuch
Leslie Gibbons
Bill Janssen
Basilia Iatomasi
Dorothy Marchesan
Catherine Mettham
Eduardo Navarro
Paula Randazzo
Ken Stone
Bill Thompson
Marta Vandermarel
Dave Wilson
Brian Woodland
Elise Hopkins

Consultant:

Mark Mascarenhas

Committee on Housing and Home Support Services for the Disabled:

Judith Bishop,Chairperson
Dr. John Johnston
Jean Knight
Barbara MacKinnon
Dorothy Marchesan
Ruth Selby
Bob Smith
Cathi Smith
Colleen Van Berkel*
Norma Walsh
Saul Zemaitis

Consultants:

Alderman David Christopherson
Doug Wallace

* Resigned during the year

Advisory Committee on Race Relations Research:

Geraldine (Gerry) Wright, Chairperson
Elizabeth Avetissian
Carlton Glanville
Douglas Hewitt
Dr. Harish Jain
Pat James
Dr. John A. Johnston
Phenom Ma
Dr. Roman March
Leonor Sorger
Ken Stone

STAFF MEMBERS

Executive Director: Mike Pennock, Jody Orr*

Research Director: Gloria DeSantis, Kim Van Louwe*

Community Development Consultant: Don Jaffray

Research Associate: Caroline Ball

Research Assistant: Angela Houser

Support Staff: Mary Swan, Executive Assistant; Caroline Eyk; Kay German †; Shurl Kocman

Volunteer Support Staff: Kay German, Hilda Nelligan

Project Staff: 1987/88: Christa Bervoets, Carmen Bian, Elise Hopkins

* Resigned during the year
† Retired during the year

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Social Planning and Research Council would like to thank its major funders — the United Way of Burlington, Hamilton-Wentworth and the Regional Municipality of Hamilton-Wentworth, for their continued support of the work of the Council. A special thanks also to the friends of the SPRC for their donations in 1987/88. We acknowledge the support of the Canada Employment and Immigration Commission, the City of Hamilton and the Martin Foundation for special project funding. During the past 12 months, we have enjoyed the opportunity to work with the Ministry of Housing and the Industry Education Council on a contract basis.